

Sixth Form Mathematics at Caterham School

Dear Students

Welcome to A-level Maths. We are very pleased that you have chosen to study Maths in the Sixth form. It is of course a highly sought-after A-level which should challenge and inspire you as well as supporting many of you in your future careers.

Before starting formal lessons in September we want to stress to you that the jump from IGCSE to A Level is rather large and with so much material to be covered in lesson time in the Lower Sixth, it's particularly important that you practise your mathematical skills and routinely consolidate your knowledge in your own time. This is likely to be especially important this year as a result of the disruption to teaching over the course of the pandemic. Your chance of a good grade at A level will be greatly affected by the preparation work you do over the summer and also by you adopting good study habits throughout your time in the Lower Sixth.

To succeed you will need to be fluent in all the algebra and number work from the IGCSE syllabus. This includes for example a good working knowledge of fractional and negative indices, solving quadratic equations, working with surds and handling the addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of fractions (without a calculator). This booklet- devised especially to help you cope with the rigours of the new A level- is essential.

Here then is a booklet covering the material which you will need to look at during your summer break. Given that you need to know these topics thoroughly before you come back in order to understand the work covered in Lower Sixth lessons we are requiring you to **complete this workbook over the summer**, the **myimaths tasks**, and the **workbook tests**. For some of you (perhaps those in a top set for IGCSE), a quick read through, then tackling the workbook tests could well be all you need to be ready. For others, it will be a more significant task and should be undertaken steadily one section at a time over the weeks ahead. If this is you, remember that we will be delighted to help you if you encounter difficulties (see the contact details below) and that your hard work will really set you on the road to success.

The booklet contains week by week instructions; it relies heavily on myimaths for which you have been given a letter with log in details. You must complete these online tasks as well as the workbook tests.

For everyone planning to study Maths or Further Maths, **there will be a test in the first week of term** which will be used to check that you are equipped with the prerequisite knowledge for the course you have chosen. Whilst we would love anyone who has a deep interest in the subject to be able to study it in the Sixth Form we know that it is not suitable for everyone because of its demanding subject content and the high level of motivation and commitment required.

This booklet, and the workbook tests are in Firefly, Subjects, Maths, A-level, Preparation for New Lower Sixth. For those of you new to the school, you will not be able to access firefly until September, but these resources have been sent to you electronically.

Please ensure that this workbook and the workbook tests are fully completed and ready to hand in at the start of September and be aware that you will receive your first effort mark of the course partly on the basis of this.

In the meantime, enjoy your summer, good luck with your exam results and we look forward to seeing you in September.

If you have any questions or problems, do not hesitate to contact us.

Caterham Mathematics Department



Head of Department: Dr Anthony Langdon Anthony.langdon@caterhamschool.co.uk

Second in Department: Mrs Penny Parker penny.parker@caterhamschool.co.uk